CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

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Variety Ball Game Sets Record

Players, Scribes, Radio Stars Pack Park And Hit 28 Gs

Toronto Variety's Heart Fund, out of which will be built a vocational guidance school for crippled children, was boosted by almost $28,000 as a result of an evening of baseball and fun at the Maple Leaf Baseball Stadium, where a capacity crowd of close to 16,000 saw the home team lose to Jersey City. The evening's take brought the building fund well over its quota of $100,000 and ground will be broken shortly for Variety Village, as the project will be known.

The occasion was distinguished by more than the fact that all parties concerned with the stadium and the game, through Barker Peter Campbell and the other directors of the Toronto

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Appel Resigns As MPTAO Prexy

Clare Appel of Odeon Theatres of Canada has resigned as president of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario and has been succeeded by H. C. D. Main, Independent, who was vice-president. Appel, who said he was not prepared to comment

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Balaban Surveys Para's Future

Although Paramount earnings in 1947 were the second highest in its history, increased costs and a diminished volume of business had reduced profit and these will have to be contended with in the future, Barney Balaban stated in his annual report to the

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Black Now Manager For SRO In West

Cecil Black has been appointed sales manager for the Calgary and Vancouver territories of the Canadian Selznick Releasing Organization, it was announced in Toronto by Joseph Marks, general manager of the Dominion.

Formerly of Empire-Universal, which he joined in 1935, Black had been Calgary branch manager until several months ago, when he was shifted to special assignments.

He entered the trade in Winnipeg, his home city and later worked in Toronto.

MGM Color Musical

Fred Astaire, Judy Garland and Oscar Levant have been set for MGM's Technicolor musical, "The Barkleys of Broadway."

Parliament Kills Old Blue Laws

Repeal of two pre-Confederation sabbath observance laws by the House of Commons will, if approved by the Senate, make Sunday amusements a possibility in those provinces in which they are not permitted now. One of the laws taken off the books was

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UK Exhibs Knock New USA Quota

Raising of the quota of playing time for British films in United Kingdom theatres from 20 per cent to 45 per cent, considered a severe blow by Hollywood, caused divided opinion about both its soundness and fairness. While J. Arthur Rank described it as

(Continued on Page 8)

Renaissance Plans 10 For Mono Release

Ten feature-length films, financed jointly by Canadians and Americans, will be made during the next two years at the Renaissance studios, Montreal, by Canadian International Screen Productions Ltd. for domestic and international release through Allied Artists and Monogram. Each of the distributing companies, which use the same facilities, will get five films. Title of the first will be made public soon.

News of the initial production plans for Renaissance Films Distribution Inc., which broke at the same time in Hollywood and

(Continued on Page 3)

Bowery Boys' Film

Next in the Bowery Boys' series at Monogram will be "Bowery Comeback," starring Leo Gorcey and Huntz Hall.

Big Paramount Year Seen By Key Men

Twenty outstanding feature productions, supplemented by four Pine & Thomas films of assured boxoffice value, were announced as the tentative lineup for Paramount Film Service in the coming season by Gordon Lightstone, general manager, at the Canadian company's annual sales convention. Scene of the two-day national meeting was the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, and present from New York was Oscar Morgan, chief of the short subjects department.

Morgan, stating that Paramount was maintaining its faith in the short subjects field while

(Continued on Page 10)

NEWS OF NEW THEATRES

National Theatre Services opened its Oakville, Ontario, theatre, the 676-seat Century, on June 17th, while Premier Operating Corporation's Willow in Willowdale, Ontario, seating close to 900, commenced operation on June 18th. Both communities are near Toronto.

The 500-seat Odeon in Sturgeon Falls, due to open in July, and the Owen Sound Odeon, formerly the Opera House, will be National units.

Biltmore Theatres' 700-seat house for Sault Ste. Marie is under way.

A $50,000 theatre and dance hall will be opened by the Carlyle, Saskatchewan, community.

The Columbia Theatre, closed for eight years, will be reopened by 20th Century Theatres in St. Thomas, Ontario, where still another theatre is projected by others.

New Republic Film

"Sands of Iwo Jima" will be a high-budget production on the 1948-9 schedule at Republic Pictures.

FILMED IN CANADA'S BEAUTIFUL WEST IT'S THE LAVISH STAR-STUDDED CINECOLOR PICTURE OF THE YEAR!
'NORTHWEST STAMPEDE' • World Premiere • July 15 in Calgary
An EAGLE LION (Hollywood) WINNER from INTERNATIONAL FILM DISTRIBUTORS LIMITED

'Sainted Sisters' Para Comedy

STARRING Veronica Lake, Joan Caulfield and Barry Fitzgerald, Paramount's "The 'Sainted' Sisters" is the pleasantly-entertaining type of light comedy that theatregoers seem to enjoy immensely, which is reflected in good results at the boxoffice.

The two femme stars are swindlers who are making their way to Canada with $25,000 in shadily-acquired banknotes. Marooned in a storm, they encounter Fitzgerald, who learns of the money and under threat of informing the police gives away the money to the needy of the town.

Renaissance Pix Via Monogram

(Continued from Page 1)

Canada, was issued jointly by J. A. DeSeve, president of that company, and Joseph Than and Leonard Fields, executive producers of Canadian International. The latter company holds a Dominion charter and was created to handle feature production in collaboration with Renaissance Films, Inc., subsidiary of the parent company.

Every effort will be made by Canadian International to use Canadian writers, actors and technicians, with key personnel being imported from the USA when none is available. The natural scenic beauties of the Dominion will be utilized.

Renaissance is entirely Canadian-owned and has some 3,000 stockholders. It claims to have the largest and most adequately equipped facilities east of Hollywood, its 600,000 cubic feet being the location of a studio along the lines of those in Hollywood. Its dressing and makeup rooms can handle 100 performers and its RCA sound recording system is the latest.

Than and Fields have had varied production experience in Europe and Hollywood, the former having put in 23 years as a director, writer and producer, while the latter has been connected with Hollywood's top companies during the past 22 years. Than will leave shortly for a tour of eastern Canadian key cities, during which he will interview actors and technicians. He will be accompanied by Glenn Ireton, an officer of Renaissance and Canadian International production assistant in charge of public relations. Fields is presently in Hollywood to sign name players.

BC Exhibs, Distribs Had Flood Aid Plan

End of the flood emergency in British Columbia caused exhibitors and distributors to drop a plan for the raising of funds to help those in distress. Previous to the preparations for getting the plan under way, theatres individually had raised over $10,000 for this purpose by Sunday shows and a large sum was also raised by a benefit symphony concert for which Famous Players provided gratis its BC flagship, the Orpheum Theatre in Vancouver.

All exhibitors in BC were prepared to donate their theatres to the organized plan and Paramount, Warners, 20th-Fox, Eagle - Lion, Empire - Universal, Republic, UA, Columbia and RKO exchanges were willing to donate their films for the shows.

Variety Ball Contest Hits Record Take

(Continued from Page 1)

Maple Leaf Baseball Club, waived all financial rights. There was a variety of attractions that made it a full evening of laughter and thrills. There were few present who will not be on hand again for next year's game.

Present for the doings was Albert B. (Happy) Chandler, successor to the late Judge Landis as the commissioner of baseball, and Frank Shaughnessy, president of the International League. Along with George Earnshaw of the Philadelphia Athletics, they were the guests of Variety at a pre-game dinner in the Prince George Hotel. The dinner was broadcast over CBC, with Bing Whitteker introducing the guests, who spoke to the listening public, as did Morris Stein, chairman of the Heart Fund.

At the game Chandler and Shaughnessy also spoke, both getting a great welcome. Jo-Jo Crysdale, sports expert who broadcasts the games, brought the guests on and John J. Fitzgibbons, CBE. chief barker of Variety, thanked Campbell and his fellow barkers of the club's board of directors. He then introduced Chandler, who spoke warmly of Canada and Toronto, ending his address with "God Save the King and God bless you all." But before he could depart Crysdale had him sing "My Old Kentucky Home," which was warmly received by the crowd. He was accompanied by the band of the 48th Highlanders, which played for the crowd during the pre-game doings.

The game that will probably last longer in the memory of the patrons than the pro contest was a two-inning one between the sports writers and the radio stars. The city's favorite byliners, captained by Joe Perlove of the Toronto Daily Star, defeated the radio rascals in a riotous set-to filled with uproarious gags, while Mickey Lester, Canada's most popular radio funny man commented on the proceedings. Wayne and Schuster umpired the game.

The pro contest, won by Jersey City 10-6, was a thriller all the way. In the stands were crippled children as special guests and thousands of others who had been given gratis tickets by many individuals and companies.

Road Board Opposes Licensing Drive-ins

Toronto and York Roads Commission recently voted unanimously against granting licenses for drive-in theatres adjacent to its roads when it was reported by Harvey Rose, chief engineer that a drive-in now operating in North York was "tying up traffic for miles and causing hour-long delays."

North York council had referred the matter to the roads commission and the Department of Highways before issuing a permit for the building of a drive-in after having previously granted a theatre company permission to purchase a site for that purpose. In all, three applications for drive-ins are before the council.

Eagle Lion Films On 12 Toronto Screens

Five first-run Eagle Lion (Hollywood) productions were being shown on 12 Toronto screens last week to set something of a record for the city. Canadian representative of the company is International Film Distributors, which is headed by David Griesdorf.

The theatres involved were key situations in the city for the three top circuits in Canada. Famous Players' Imperial played "The Noose Hangs High" and the Nortown and Victoria showed "T-Men" day-and-date. Odeon's Fairlawn and Danforth had as their day-and-date attraction "Out of the Blue." Twentieth Century Theatres' Ace, Circle, Kenwood and State were showing "The Man From Texas" and "Linda Be Good" was one-half of a double bill at the Midtown, Esquire and Glendale.

To Script 'Bad Boy'

Allied Artists has signed Robert D. Andrews to script "Bad Boy," forthcoming film that will be produced by Paul Short in co-operation with the Variety Clubs International.

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HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

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Appel Resigns As MPTAO Prexy

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on his resignation, will continue to serve on the board of directors. His decision to withdraw from the office of president was accepted with regret at a meeting of the board. Over a month has passed since Appel resigned but for reasons of its own the MPTAO did not see fit to make the fact known, nor the name of his successor. First information given the membership was contained in a recent bulletin.

Roy Miller of the Lincoln, St. Catharines, a director, was appointed vice-president.

At the most recent meeting final decision on the question of exhibitors in northwestern Ontario paying censorship fees for the privilege of using Manitoba prints was not reached. This had been discussed with O. J. Silverthorne, chief Ontario censor, by Main in behalf of the association. Further talks will take place.

Raymond Allen and Nat Taylor, directors, will serve on a committee with Main to meet with representatives of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association when it is necessary to weigh common action.

Taylor reported in his capacity as the MPTAO's representative during the recent tariff negotiations with Capac.

NFB

The New

CANADA CARRIES ON

RELEASE FOR

JUNE

MAPS WE LIVE BY

A NATIONAL FILM BOARD PRODUCTION

Distributed by

COLUMBIA PICTURES

Newsy Notes

For the Kids

Typodermic Injections

There was a gay time and a gourmet's holiday at the party of the Paramount lads, gathered in Toronto for their annual talks, with Tommy Dowbiggin's war whoop riding the clatter and chatter. Oscar Morgan was on hand from New York and, as usual this time of year, he went on to the Gananoque area to open the family cottage, which has been thereabouts for 43 years. In the days when Canada was part of Paramount's foreign department Oscar had charge of it. When it was placed in the domestic market George Weeks took over. He was pleased with the vigor and loyalty of Gordon Lightstone's lads, who were just as glad to see him again as were guests from the trade.

Johnny Kurk, Midtown manager, has a sharp eye. He noticed that one of the windows on the second floor, usually left open, was closed and that there was a shadow on the outside. The shadow belonged to a would-be thief, who was waiting on the ledge — the dope — until the show was over. So Johnny, who was locking up, had him locked up . . . **Joe Palansky** of Empire-Universal will be stepping out of the business in a couple of weeks after 29 years. Joe will return to the West to enter another field in partnership and plenty of people will sure miss his friendly pan from around here, for he is one of the nicest guys On the Square . . . **Lou and Mrs. Rosefield** of the Westdale, Hamilton, were honored by the Westdale United Church for allowing the theatre to be used gratis for Sunday services during the past ten months. Lou was the recipient of an illuminated address during one of the services and Mrs. Rosefield was presented with a pair of Dresden figurines.

There was a great reunion at the home of Sam Lester recently, the four brothers and one sister that comprise the family being under one roof for the first time in their lives. The children originally numbered 11, ten of whom were boys, and there remain six, one in South Africa. The girl was born in Russia after the boys had left for England and America, and she and the parents joined one of the brothers in Britain, with whom she came to Canada for the reunion. The parents passed on years ago and since then Sam, who visited Britain recently, had been trying to bring about the reunion. Those present were Mrs. David Footman, 54; Harry, 45; Sam, 65; George, 70; and Harris, 74 . . .**Al Sedgwick** calls movie players "the flat actors."

Carillon may make the Canadian book, "Champlain Road," into its first film . . . **Ex-Torontonian** Harry Popkin, California circuit operator and Indie producer, will make "Impact" with a million dollar budget and UA will distribute . . . **Scripter** Art Arthur's Rogell-directed "Song of India" will have a Columbia release . . . **"Amateur Dramatics,"** a booklet, is distributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture. I guess that's where ham and corn belong . . . **Seems to be** some mystery about the Canadian Co-op Project. Asked about his promised report on movie foreign exchange problems, Trade and Commerce Minister Howe answered: "I am not in a position to announce it today; I wish I were."

Considerable managerial shifting at 20th Century Theatres, with Don Watts of the Park, Chatham, transferred to the Rideau, Ottawa, where he succeeded Isser Singerman, now in charge of the State, Toronto. Ernest Taylor, assistant manager of the Elgin, Ottawa, replaces Watts in Chatham and has himself been succeeded by Leslie Jefferies . . . **They have fun** in Parliament too. On a bill to increase the tracks' pari-mutuel percentages Tommy Church said: "We passed a bill the other night about horses consumed for meat. Is there any necessity for this one now? Since they have eaten all the horses, there will be no further need for racetracks." He was assured that there were some left.

Baseball Variviews

Only the threat of rain prevented the use of the standing room facilities at the stadium. They were already up and had to be removed. The uncertainty of the weather kept that extra number of fans away. But it was something to see Pete Campbell's pride as he looked around and saw the ball park as he would like to see it oftener.

Biggest laugh of the evening was when Johnny Perkins of the radio team was allegedly hurt and a tow truck hauled him off the field. Johnny is that hefty piano-pounder and when he went down many in the crowd thought it was on the level until the truck showed up.

Like every good act, the problem was to get an "off" and the lads figured out a pip. They got poor unsuspecting Johnny Fitzgerald of the Telegram to lie down and someone dumped a pail of water on him. Umpires Wayne & Schuster then quickly called the game because of rain. Mickey Lester did some prize taunting of his air-wave rivals, inviting them to use his microphone, assuring them that it was much funnier than their own.

John Fitzgibbons, chief barker, was interviewed over "Kesten's Corner" by Bob Kesten. I drove to the game with Bob and Ernie Bushnell. Bob asked me to hand him his baseball shoes, which were in a bag. With them was a book, "My Greatest Day in Baseball." I accused Bob of studying for the game but he claimed it was all a coincidence.

The boys used bats and balls donated by Harry Sniderman of the Adelaide Hotel and a variety of gear from various sporting goods houses. Bunny Morganson of the Tely wore an old Leaf road uniform. Big Bunny was forced to use a kid's bat, which looked like a pencil in his hands, and failing to hit with it, took his foot-long cigar out of his mouth and used that.

Doug Rosen, head of the baseball committee, was a mighty happy lad, as was Jack Arthur, with whom he worked in association with Sam Hersenhorn to put over that radio-sports tussle.

Of all the Variety baseball tickets sellers, Sam Wacker did the greatest job and he would have sold some to the statue of Sir John A. MacDonald in Queen's Park if he hadn't been stopped. He also promoted the roses sold at the park. But we mustn't forget Bill Summerville and Ed DeRochere for their diplomatic handling of ticket allotment. Ed wouldn't stop working and picked up loose tickets from barkers, which he resold. And then there was that crackerjack program whipped up by Jimmy Nairn, Burt Brown and Jim Cameron. It added thousands of dollars to the total take.

The clubrooms were the after-game headquarters. Everyone headed for them and there was a great time, induced by a sense of accomplishment.

Happy Chandler wasn't kidding when he spoke so warmly of Canada. The former governor of Kentucky and United States senator played pro ball for Saskatoon years ago.

It seems that the Leafs can't win anything but money for Variety. They lost last year's tilt also.

The next great event will be the breaking of ground on the site of Variety Village.

Visitors at the game were George Giroux of Technicolor and Charlie Boasberg of RKO.

Some of the "names" who romped around during the comedy ball tiff were Gord Walker, Lorne Greene, Bing Whitteker, Jackie Rae, Phil Stone, Annis Stukus, Ed Fitkin, Red Burnett, Hap Watson and Nat Turofsky.

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 13, No. 26 REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK $2.00 Per Annum

On An Island With You

with Esther Williams, Jimmy Durante, Xavier Cugat, Peter Lawford

MGM 107 Mins.

FAMILIAR COLORFUL ROMANTIC CONCOCTION SHOULD EASILY SELL ITSELF TO THE GENERAL AUDIENCE; HAS PLENTY SPECTACLE, EYE-APPEAL, PLUS MUSIC.

Amphibious Esther Williams in a half dozen changes of bathing costumes and other parts of her wardrobe worthy of close inspection, aided by Technicolor, is appealingly filmed cavorting in a romantic story that fairly falls flat on its face in the first reel and remains in that position. Concocted as a screenplay by four writers, from an original story by two of the same crew, here we have Peter Lawford pursuing Miss Williams on some Pacific isle because she once kissed him during the war when she was playing the camp show circuit.

It's a movie within a movie. The script base has Miss Williams and Ricardo Montalban making a film. Lawford, a Navy flyer, is called in to give technical advice on uniforms and ribbons. He framed the assignment to be near the girl.

What with one thing and another Lawford "kidnaps" Miss Williams in his plane, flies with her to an abandoned base where he puts his radio on and has a dance—that being the sole purpose of the unauthorized flight, it says in the script.

In any case and despite the shortcomings of the yarn here the audience gets the following for its money: fine Technicolor, water ballet, Jimmy Durante singing songs that made him a top entertainer, Xavier Cugat playing with a chihuahua dog while leading his band, assorted lovelies, Cyd Charisse and Montalban in a couple of diverting dance numbers.

"On an Island with You" is a production designed and executed for the conditioned taste of the average audience previously pleased with similar pieces.

In the end Miss Williams and Lawford clinch; Montalban and Miss Charisse find they are in love, so boys get girls and all's right with the script. Richard Thorpe directed. It'll sell itself.

CAST:Esther Williams, Peter Lawford, Ricardo Montalban, Jimmy Durante, Cyd Charisse, Xavier Cugat, Leon Ames.

CREDITS: Producer, Joe Pasternack; Director, Richard Thorpe; Screenplay, Dorothy Kingsley, Dorothy Cooper, Charles Martin, Hans Wilhelm; From an original story by Charles Martin, Hans Wilhelm; Photography, Charles Rosher.

DIRECAION, Adequate. PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

Out Of The Blue

with George Brent, Virginia Mayo, Carole Landis, Ann Dvorak

International Film Distributors 84 Mins.

IT'S A LOT OF FUN AND SHOULD STACK UP PLENTY BIG GROSSES: VERY WELL DONE.

Rowdy comedy a good deal on the screwball side occupies most of the running time of this number. It is a good job, replete with top calibre performances, a good story idea, first class attention to production detail.

Brent is being henpecked by his wife, Miss Landis. Next door, and with an adjourning terrace, lives Turhan Bey, an artist. Two floors above live Julia Dean and Elizabeth Patterson, a pair of old maids constantly spying on the activity below.

Terrace life being what it is Brent and Miss Landis become perturbed when Turhan Bey's dog buries bones in Miss Landis' zinnia bed. She wants ouster proceedings launched against Bey who has also scandalized the terrace folk with strings of beauties parading in and out of his apartment. Brent goes into this.

Virginia Mayo comes a-calling on Bey. She wants to mate her dog with Bey's. She stays to pose for him. Miss Landis goes visiting out of town. Brent becomes involved with Miss Dvorak in a nearby cafe. He takes her home for a drink. It is quite an innocent party but Miss Dvorak gets a load on and decides to stay the night. She claims a weak heart, is constantly collapsing—passing out.

The Mayo-Bey romance develops. In order to avoid a dispossess proceeding Bey sends his dog away. Trying to get rid of Miss Dvorak, Brent manhandles her. She passes out. He places her on Bey's terrace. The old maids spot the supposed corpse, call the cops. Meanwhile Miss Dvorak comes to, tells Bey of her predicament. He hides her. A revenge plot is cooked up against Brent.

Following hectic business in which Brent has a bad time, the worm finally turns. Brent asserts himself. Miss Dvorak who has been missing for days goes home. Miss Mayo and Bey get into their romantic stride.

CAST: Virginia Mayo, George Brent, Turhan Bey, Ann Dvorak, Carole Landis, Hadda Brocks, Alton E. Horton.

CREDITS: Bryan Foy in charge of production; Produced by Isadore G. Goldsmith; Director, Leigh Jason; Screenplay, Walter Bullock, Vera Caspary, Edward Eliscu; Based on a story by Vera Caspary; Photography, Jackson Rose.

DIRECTION, Fine; PHOTOGRAPHY, First Rate.

Give My Regards To Broadway

with Dan Dailey, Charles Winninger, Nancy Guild, Chas. Ruggles, Fay Bainter

20th-Fox 89 Mins.

VERY WELL DONE, MOVING STORY OF SHOW PEOPLE; IT HAS BOXOFFICE CLICK WRITTEN ALL OVER; ENHANCED BY TOP PERFORMING, TECHNICOLOR.

Contemplating the demise and not quite successful resuscitation of vaudeville in terms of the family life of one "Albert the Great," this fine Technicolored production issues forth warmth, understanding, pathos, comedy bits and richly performed entertainment. It is lucidly set forth. Casting is excellent.

They were halcyon days when this story starts. Winninger and his family, consisting of wife Fay Bainter, a son who later grows up to be Dan Dailey, and two baby daughters—subsequently Jane Nigh and Barbara Lawrence—have played the Palace with the big names. But at liberty when films are the coming entertainment medium, Winninger, to support his family takes a "temporary" job in New Jersey until he once more hears from his agent.

That temporary job becomes the basis for the home life of the Norwicks. The children grow up. But always they are rehearsing and improving the act which offers songs, dances, juggling, comedy.

The girls marry. Then Dailey falls in love with Miss Guild, joins the company baseball team, wins a scholarship to MIT.

Sig Ruman, "Dinkle, who never forgets," shows up after 20 years with a contract for 16 weeks in Denver with a carnival and he wants Winninger. It is a poignant moment when Dailey decides to give over to Miss Guild. Fairly broken Winninger resigns his now important job at the Boyd Appliance Co. and prepares to leave for Denver. Waiting at the station which adjoins a baseball field where Dailey is the star player in an important game in the industrial league, Winninger looks in, misses the train and, impressed, decides vaudeville is really dead and there is no place in its reincarnation for him.

CAST: Dan Dailey, Charles Winninger, Nancy Guild, Charles Ruggles, Fay Bainter, Barbara Lawrence, Jane Nigh, Charles Russell, Sig Ruman.

CREDITS: Producer, Walter Morosco; Director, Lloyd Bacon; Screenplay, Samuel Hoffenstein, Elizabeth Reinhardt; Based on a story by John Klempner; Photography, Harry Jackson.

DIRECTION, Skillful. PHOTOGRAPHY, Very Good.

Up In Central Park

with Deanna Durbin, Dick Haymes, Vincent Price

Empire-Universal 88 Mins.

LACKING MOST OF THE STAGE SHOW'S ROMBERG MUSIC, THIS ONE HAS NAME VALUES, GOOD PRODUCTION AND DANCING TO SELL TO AUDIENCES.

Most of the compelling music that made this show a fair success on Broadway has been excised in the film version and it all simmers down to boy-meets-girl, girls sing and Boss Tweed and his dirty politicians are eliminated from the New York political scene.

Besides Miss Durbin's singing which is up to her usual quality there is some sprightly dancing in ballet form that proves considerably entertaining.

Freshly arrived from Ireland Miss Durbin and her father, Albert Sharpe, are immediately pressed into the service of Price. It is Election Day and the vote must be got out. Sharpe votes 23 times. Miss Durbin meets Price. Learning that Miss Durbin had overheard a private victory celebration, Price makes her father superintendent of Central Park where they are given lodgings.

One afternoon Miss Durbin meets Dick Haymes who is a reporter on the Times out to get the Tweed organization behind bars. He falls heavily for the girl then meets Sharpe who is feeding the animals in the zoo. From Sharpe he learns Tweed is raising fowl in the zoo for his gourmet's table. The Times prints the story.

Then Price takes more than a fatherly interest in Miss Durbin, arranges a private dinner with her so he can show her his Currier & Ives. Sharpe comes busting in to thwart Price's designs. But Price encourages the girl in her singing career. Miss Durbin, along these lines, gets off an aria from "La Forza Del Destino." Sharpe causes her embarrassment and she concentrates on Price. But Haymes and the old man tackle the drunken mayor one night, get the city records which when they are published make the town too hot for the Tweed organization. Resultantly Miss Durbin comes back to Haymes and her father.

CAST: Deanna Durbin, Dick Haymes, Vincent Price, Albert Sharpe, Tom Powers, Hobart Cavanaugh.

CREDITS: Producer, Karl Tunberg; Director, William Seiter; Screenplay, Karl Tunberg; From the stage show by Dorothy Fields, Sigmund Romberg; Photography, Milton Krasna.

DIRECTION, Fair. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

ONE OF THE MOST

RUG

BRUTAL and BREATHTAKING

as THE SATURDAY EVENING POST story!

GEO

WESTERN DRAMAS EVER SCREENED!

CORONER CREEK

starring

in CINECOLOR

RANDOLPH SCOTT

MARGUERITE CHAPMAN

with GEORGE MACREADY · SALLY EILERS · EDGAR BUCHANAN

Screenplay by Kenneth Gamet · Adapted from the novel "Coroner Creek" by Luke Short

Directed by RAY ENRIGHT · Produced by HARRY JOE BROWN

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

UK Exhibs Knock New USA Quota

(Continued from Page 1)

"great news for the British film industry," the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, at its meeting on the Isle of Man, protested against the quota as impossible to fill.

Delegates at the convention had some hard things to say about Rank, whom they characterized as "a virtual dictator" whose organization was "a millstone around the neck of the British industry."

Although Rank's producing companies will make 60 pictures for the next season in comparison to the current 26, American film men also doubt the ability of the British to provide enough product to meet the quota. They point out that British exhibitors had trouble fulfilling the old quota and that, in their opinion, UK producers cannot turn out more than 80 pictures per year. For years it has required 350 films annually to meet the needs of British theatres.

He had no thought of excluding American films, said Rank, "because we want to show the best of all product." This was small comfort to Hollywood, whose spokesmen said that the new order made it impossible to get worthwhile playing time for its films.

American interests have been losing strength steadily in Great Britain and the Cinematograph Films Council, which suggested a 50 per cent quota, is now exclusively British at the order of the government. It formerly had an American representative on it.

The quota ruling was a disappointing surprise to American film men, who expected that they would be allowed to retain their important place in British exhibition because of the Anglo-American film agreement of March. They are open and bitter in their denunciations of the new quota, which they claim has sabotaged the agreement.

Rank said he did not know what Americans would do in regard to British films but added that "it is in their interests to consider pushing British films."

The Motion Picture Export Association has asked the USA State Department to protest against the removal of the American representative from the Cinematograph Films Council.

FOR LEASE

300-seat Theatre in Small Town near Windsor, Ont.

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ECHOES and REFLECTIONS

Our Discourteous Females

(From the Moose Jaw Times Herald)

No mere man would have the temerity to write a letter to the editor of a newspaper, terming a considerable portion of the women of Moose Jaw inconsiderate or discourteous. The male section of the population, either in fear of consequences at home, or of being invited to release a seat on a bus to a member of the opposite sex, must admit, when challenged "Are you a man or a mouse?" that they belong to the latter classification. It takes a woman to tell the women who insist on wearing hats in theatres that they are giving Moose Jaw a bad reputation.

The mail today brought a letter from Mrs. Marie V. Gibbs, of Suite 3, Victoria Apartments, in which she says she finds everyone in the "Friendly City" keeping up the city's reputation, except women patrons of theatres. Here's what she says:

"Since moving to Moose Jaw last fall I've found it to be a very friendly city. Everyone has been courteous and obliging in the stores and business places except in the theatres. In this case, I refer to the women who patronize them—the women who never remove their hats that have high crowns, or are decorated with plumes, or that have a six-inch radius of netting around them, or that are topped with huge bows.

"I've been in several theatres that have signs in the lobbies requesting women to remove their hats and if they fail to do so, the ushers were certain to remind them. Just recently I was ushered to a seat directly behind a woman with a hat on that completely blacked out the screen for me. I politely asked her to remove her hat, but she gave me an icy glare and ignored my request. That meant that if I wanted to see the show, (and who does not when that is what we pay to see?) I had to move, thereby inconveniencing the people who had to get up to let me pass and the people sitting behind; all because of a woman who was so inconsiderate as to insist on leaving her big hat on! Strange, but I feel guilty if I sit in a theatre with a scully on. Wouldn't it be a fine thing if all the men kept their hats on, too?

"On behalf of myself and all those who deplore the sight of a woman's hat in a theatre, won't our local theatre managers do something about it? Please?"

Obviously this is something outside the realm of the Chamber of Commerce, the City Council or the men's service clubs. In fact, it doesn't concern the men at all—it's up to the women themselves. Mrs. Gibbs suggests the theatre managers do something about it. But they are mere men, and they may be timid about doing that which even the angels would not do.

The women of Moose Jaw are most thoroughly organized with between 200 and 250 women's clubs and groups, including several which rank as women's service clubs. With this efficient organization they should be able to establish a practice—either to all wear their hats in theatres, or to redeem the reputation of the Friendly City.

Oldie Double Bill

"It happened One Night" and "One Night of Love," each winner of Academy Awards, are being re-issued as a double bill by Columbia.

Stars Of 'The Bribe'

Robert Taylor and Ava Gardner have the lead roles in MGM's "The Bribe," now in production.

'Outlaw Valley'

Tim Holt and Martha Hyer will star in RKO's "Outlaw Valley."

Cabanne To Direct

Christy Cabanne has been signed to direct "Silver Trail," Monogram western starring Jimmy Wakely and "Cannonball" Taylor.

Balaban Surveys Para's Future

(Continued from Page 1)

stockholders of Paramount Pictures, Inc. "Actually, the diminution in volume was relatively small," he said, "but only a small reduction of volume accompanied by increased costs bites deeply into the profit margin."

Theatre earnings have held up much better than those from production-distribution, Balaban pointed out. Although theatre receipts were down in about the same proportion as film rentals, costs in theatre operation increased less than in production-distribution. He felt that theatre earnings should not be depended on to fill the production-distribution gap, since the uncertainty of the effects of the anti-trust suit made it necessary for each section of the company's business to be maintained in an independently healthy condition.

Pictures which helped keep 1947 profits satisfactory were made two years ago, when production and distribution costs were lower and the market turned out to be richer than anticipated. In 1947 markets began to contract, high cost inventory was on hand, downward readjustment was hard to effect and so earnings fell. Economies were undertaken but these did not merit coasting along.

If Paramount is to remain a major factor in the production-distribution of pictures of quality, these must be made at a cost which will permit their distribution at a profit. "I believe that inventory and cost control are the most important criteria of success or failure in our industry today," Balaban stated. That did not mean the minimizing of other factors, of which there were many, but these would never be reached if costs could not be controlled.

The British agreement was such that the company was not justified at this time in counting on remittances to bolster its dollar resources, he said. Also the anti-trust decree would bring about transformations in the industry which would also affect Paramount, leading to a reduction of assets and earning power, and forcing a shrinking of the capital structure.

"It would be foolhardy for us to be misled by past film earnings and thereby fail to recognize the seriousness of current events," Balaban concluded. "Your management realizes this seriousness. We have dedicated ourselves to a course which we believe will carry us through safely."

At Renaissance Press Party

Many prominent Canadian motion picture personalities, newspaper and magazine representatives attended the press reception held recently at the Renaissance Film Distribution Incorporated studio in Montreal for Joseph Than and Leonard Fields, executive producers of Canadian International Screen Productions Limited. Latter company will make ten feature films in the Dominion for distribution by Monogram and Allied Artists.

Shown above, from the left are Bill Lester, general manager of United Amusements; Frank Vaughan, assistant general manager of Monogram and Allied Artists in Canada; Sam Jacobs, Montreal branch manager of Monogram and AA; Leo Choquette, treasurer of Renaissance; Joseph Lemay, second vice-president of Renaissance; and Glenn Ireton, Renaissance executive and production assistant with the new company.

Parliament Kills Old Blue Laws

(Continued from Page 1)

passed by the British Parliament in 1781 and the other by the legislature of Upper Canada in 1859.

As interpreted by some, the action of the House now leaves prosecution for violation of the Lord's Day Act, a federal law, up to local prosecutors and the province. A prosecutor may charge a breach of the law only with the written permission of the attorney-general of the province.

Ontario and Nova Scotia have been mainly affected by the laws just repealed. In Quebec Sunday amusements have long been in practice, mainly because the provincial authorities, in the light of public sentiment, refuses to use their offices to end them.

In provinces other than Quebec operators of motion picture theatres have been satisfied to go along without challenging the law and will probably continue to do so.

If Sunday amusements are initiated as a test, such a move will likely originate with sports promoters. Sunday double-headers are of great financial benefit to baseball clubs in Quebec and the USA. These, like the midnight shows of movie theatres, have often made the difference between profit and loss.

Theatre operators will wait to see what happens.

W. E. GARRICK

Montreal district service supervisor for Dominion Sound Equipment who has been promoted manager of equipment sales and service in the same area.

USP's 'Distant Drums'

United States Pictures has signed Joel McCrea to star in "Distant Drums," which Warner Bros. will release. James Webb is doing the screenplay from the Dan Totheroh stage success.

Star Cast In 'Sand'

Jean Peters has been cast in 20th-Fox' "Sand."

Tourneur To Direct

Jacques Tourneur will direct "Interference" for RKO.

Virginia Mayo Cast

Virginia Mayo, long under contract to Samuel Goldwyn Productions, has been signed by Warner Brothers for a starring dramatic role in "Dames Don't Talk."

Columbia Contracts Television Actress

Helen Parrish, former film ingenue, has returned to Hollywood following several seasons on Broadway and in television as the feminine lead in Columbia's "Quick on the Trigger." The studio has set Lyle Talbot, Ted Adams and George Eldredge for top supporting roles in the film.

EAGLE-LION PICTURES

Now Available with French Dialogue

SEVENTH VEIL

and

MADONNA OF THE SEVEN MOONS

Currently playing to stand-out business

•

Arrange Play Dates through your local exchange

An EAGLE-LION Release

It's a problem!

"He wants to know when we're playing the French versions."

Rank Will Merge Odeon, Gaumont

Circuits Management Association may be organized in Great Britain by J. Arthur Rank to combine Odeon Theatres and Gaumont British, circuits of which he is chairman. Worth $80,000,000, they run 519 theatres for themselves and subsidiary companies and the placing of them under one head will lead to better pooling arrangements.

CMA would have a single managerial and accountancy staff formed by concentrating the departments now engaged on this work in the two original groups.

The plan would simplify managerial problems, give better service, make the best use of manpower and "give keen young men better opportunities."

An official statement on the merger said that "experience has shown that a theatre, to be most successful, should show a balanced program of British and American pictures.

"The success of a theatre today depends to a very large extent on the number and quality of British films it can obtain for exhibition, because on the average, the attendances at the theatres showing British films are higher than when other films are shown.

"The arrangements now proposed provides for an efficient over-all administration which should not only lead to considerable economies in operation but also should ensure a balanced allocation of the available British films in the interests of the theatre-owning companies and their patrons."

Big Paramount Year Seen By Key Men

(Continued from Page 1)

other companies were reducing output, gave as 70 the total number to be issued, plus 52 issues of the very successful Canadian Paramount News. The Canadian news won warm praise from him and both he and Lightstone asked that, because of growing costs, its distribution be increased.

As listed by Morgan, the shorts lineup will consist of eight Popeyes, in color; ten Noveltoons, in color; 12 Pacemakers; six Speaking of Animals; six Popular Science, in color; six Unusual Occupations, in color; ten Sportslights; and 12 Screen Songs, in color. Of the 70 to be offered, 42 will be in color.

As made public by Lightstone, the standing in the branch managers' contest was: Syl Gunn, Winnipeg, first, Bill Kelly, Calgary, second; Pat Hogan, Saint John, third; with Vancouver Toronto and Montreal following in order. The Paramount Month Drive, he said, would be held this year from September 5th to October 2nd inclusive. In discussing sales policies and problems, Lightstone quoted Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution, as aware of the good job done last year and pointed out that there had been few changes in manpower since the war. The company was concerned with the progress of its personnel and must be on the lookout for the type of man who could give it leadership in the years to come.

A number of social events took place during the three days the sales representatives were in Toronto. At these guests from the industry fraternized with personnel from the field and from the head office and Toronto branch. The highlight of these affairs was the induction of Mrs. Mabel May of the head office into the 25 Year Club.

Lightstone, with fitting remarks about her long and friendly service, presented Mrs. May with her certificate of membership, after which the lights were dimmed while a cake, with 25 candles on it, was brought in. She was then presented with the club pin, a Paramount emblem with a small diamond in it, and a wrist watch suitably inscribed. Willard O'Neill introduced the entertainment which followed.

The feature schedule, as given those at the meeting, was as follows:

"Night Has a Thousand Eyes," with Edward G. Robinson, Gail Russell, John Lund, William Demarest and Virginia Bruce.

"Isn't It Romantic?," with Roland Culver, Veronica Lake, Mary Hatcher and Mona Freeman.

"Sorry, Wrong Number," with Barbara Stanwyck, Burt Lancaster and Ann Richards.

"The Tatlock Millions," with Wandra Hendrix, John Lund, Barry Fitzgerald, Monty Wooley and Ilka Chase.

"Sealed Verdict," with Ray Milland, Florence Marly and Broderick Crawford.

"The Great Gatsby," with Alan Ladd, Betty Field, Barry Sullivan, Macdonald Carey, Ruth Hussey and Howard Da Silva.

"My Own True Love," with Phyllis Calvert, Melvyn Douglas and Wandra Hendrix.

"The Paleface," in Technicolor, with Bob Hope and Jane Russell.

"Now and Forever," with Claude Rains, Macdonald Carey and Wandra Hendrix.

"Whispering Smith," in Technicolor, with Alan Ladd, Robert Preston, Brenda Marshall, Donald Crisp and William Demarest.

"A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court," in Technicolor, with Bing Crosby, Rhonda Fleming, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Murvyn Vye, Virginia Field, William Bendix and Henry Wilcoxon.

"Dark Circle," with Ray Milland, Audrey Totter and Thomas Mitchell.

"The Accused," with Loretta Young, Robert Cummings and Wendell Corey.

"Sorrowful Jones," with Bob Hope, Lucille Ball, Mary Jayne Saunders, William Demarest and Bruce Cabot.

"Dear Wife," with Joan Caulfield, William Holden, Edward Arnold and Billy De Wolfe.

"One Woman," with Alan Ladd.

"Diamond In a Haystack," with Bing Crosby and Barry Fitzgerald.

"Lady of Lariat Loup," with Betty Hutton and David Niven.

"Mask For Lucretia," with Paulette Goddard and Ray Milland.

"El Paso" has not been cast as yet.

Four Pine and Thomas productions.

Madeleine Carroll in UA's 'High Fury'

Madeleine Carroll will return to the screen for the first time since the war in "High Fury," a new film soon to be released by United Artists, according to an announcement made today by Charles "Buddy" Rogers and Ralph Cohn.

Filmed in Switzerland, "High Fury," is based on an original story by Lesley Storm and Harold French, who also directed.

'Oct. Man' Contest Gets Big Response

One of the best publicity contests building up a motion picture was climaxed recently when the J. Arthur Rank Organization of Canada named the winner on the stage of the Odeon-Danforth Theatre, Toronto, of its "October Man" competition. Over 20,000 entries were received, all from the city, pointing up the campaign on the J. Arthur Rank film, "The October Man," starring John Mills and Joan Greenwood.

Contest was carried daily over CKEY in one of the most effective tie-ins with a radio station in recent years. Picture and contest received plugs several times daily, with a half-hour program on the stage of the Danforth winding up the 22 days of broadcasts. Eighteen prizes, which were eventually awarded on a winner-take-all basis and included a refrigerator, radio and cedar chest as well as suits and coats, were donated by local merchants who advertised the contest and gave away the free entry forms.

Both theatres used a special trailer and carried the contest in their newspaper ads. Winner had to be in either theatre or boxoffice queues or had to be at his phone at home when his name was drawn by a city controller during the broadcast. Special loudspeakers were installed outside both theatres to keep the crowds informed and cars were ready to rush the winner to the Danforth from wherever he was.

Direct result of the contest was that the film did outstanding business which built up each day until the culminating ceremonies.

Much of the credit for the success of the scheme is due to the efforts of Archie J. Laurie, head of publicity for the J. Arthur Rank Organization of Canada, who was in charge throughout.

'The Red Light'

Roy Del Ruth's next for Allied Artists will be "The Red Light."

Lois Maxwell Signs For Columbia Pic

Lois Maxwell, Toronto-born actress recently released from her contract with Warner Brothers, has been signed by Columbia to play an important role in "The Dark Past." She will portray the wife of Lee J. Cobb, who stars in the film with William Holden and Nina Foch.

Miss Maxwell started her career in the Canadian Army show, then appeared in two stage plays in London, England, "Our Betters" and "Fit for Heroes." She was in two pictures at Warners, "That Hagen Girl" and "The Big Punch."

Paramount Folk at Business and Pleasure During Toronto Sessions

Paramount branch officers, Toronto and head office staff members and guests from the exhibition side of the industry got together during the recent convention in the King Edward Hotel, Toronto.

In the first photo the Paramount men are shown at the opening of the business sessions. No. 2 shows Mrs. Mabel May, who was inducted into the 25 Year Club.

No. 3—left to right, pictures the branch managers. They are, Tom Dowbiggin, Montreal; Bill Kelly, Calgary; Oscar Morgan, New York, head of Paramount's short subjects department; Gordon Lightstone, Canadian general manager; Syl Gunn, Winnipeg; Bob Murphy, Vancouver; Russell Simpson, Toronto; and Pat Hogan, St. John.

No. 4—bookers, exhibitors, trade press, representatives, etc.

No. 5—Gordon Lightstone, properly attired, starts off the feeding process.

No. 6—more guests. No. 7—Paramount head office group. No. 8—Lightstone tagged by Mabel May upon being welcomed into the 25 Year Club and presented with a wrist watch and other gifts. No. 9—the general scene.

LAUGHS!

THRILLS!

LEO GORCEY AND THE BOWERY BOYS

in "ANGELS ALLEY"

"JINX MONEY"

"NEWS HOUNDS"

Charlie CHAN in "The Chinese Ring"

"DOCKS OF NEW ORLEANS"

"THE TRAP"

MONOGRAM PICTURES

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